 Misc. 1554

A Litany for Missions

O GOD the Father of Heaven, who hast made of one blood all nations of the earth;

Have mercy upon us.

O God, the Son, Redeemer of the world, who when thou art lifted up dost draw all men unto thee;

Have mercy upon us.

O God, the Holy Ghost, by whom the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified;

Have mercy upon us.

O holy, blessed and glorious Trinity, the Father, the Saviour and the Comforter of men;

Have mercy upon us.

Remember not, Lord, our past unfaithfulness, our neglect of opportunities, our deafness to thy calls, our slothfulness and want of zeal; Spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood;

Spare us, good Lord.

From all ungenerous, bitter and thankless tempers, from coldness and hardness of heart, from covetousness and love of this present world;

Good Lord, deliver us.

From clamour and impatience, from restlessness and unbelief, from doubt of thy power to save by many or by few;

Good Lord, deliver us.

From ignorance concerning the spread of thy Kingdom, from indifference to the needs of those who sit in darkness, from neglect of the power of prayer and from reluctance to give as thou hast prospered us;

Good Lord, deliver us.

We sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God, and that it may please thee to rule and govern thy holy Church universal in the right way;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

By thy great pity for the souls of men, by thy compassion on the multitude fainting and scattered abroad;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

By thy revelation of thyself to chosen witnesses, by thy commandment to baptize the nations, by thy sure promise, "Lo, I am with you always,"

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

By thy perpetual intercession at the right hand of the Father, by thy second coming and the gathering of all nations before thy throne;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

[*For those who minister*]

That it may please thee to illuminate all Bishops, Priests and Deacons, with true knowl-

edge and understanding of thy Word; and that both by their preaching and living they may set it forth and show it accordingly;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to send forth men full of faith and of the Holy Ghost as laborers into thy harvest;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to fit and prepare all missionaries for their ministry, bestowing upon them thy manifold gifts of grace and making them true workers of righteousness and helpers of mankind;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to prosper all schools and colleges, all hospitals and dispensaries, and to bless all those who through the ministry of mercy preach thy gospel among the sick and suffering;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

[*For the heathen*]

That it may please thee to send out thy light and thy truth into the dark places of the earth, and by the breath of thy lips to destroy the habitations of cruelty;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to have mercy upon the heathen everywhere throughout the world, to give them the knowledge of salvation for the remission of their sins, to turn them from the power of Satan, and to guide their feet into the way of peace;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to encourage and sustain the converts to the faith in heathen lands, making them strong to endure enmity and patient under reproach;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

¶ *One or more of the five following special petitions may be used, or all may be omitted.*

That it may please thee to shed the light of thy truth upon India and China, and to raise up hosts of loving disciples from among these ancient nations.

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to guide and guard the people of Japan, and make them to learn through the gospel what are the real treasures of wisdom and knowledge;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to rule by the power of thy spirit the hearts of the black race, both here and abroad, so that Ethiopia may stretch out her hands unto God;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to make thyself known to the Indian tribes scattered abroad in this our land, as indeed the Great Father for whom their souls have longed;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee, whose way is in the sea and whose paths are in the great waters, to take for thy possession the islands of the sea, and to establish in them the rule of thy Christ;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

[*For non-Christian people*]

That it may please thee to bring into the way of truth all such as have erred and are deceived;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bring thine ancient people Israel to a knowledge of thy Son Jesus Christ, as their Saviour and their King;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to touch the hearts of those who in Christian lands, though hearing the call of their Saviour answer Him not, and having known the gospel of salvation yet care for none of these things;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

[*For the Church*]

That it may please thee to give to all thy people increase of grace to hear meekly thy Word, and to receive it with pure affection, and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee so to dispose our hearts that we may offer ourselves a living sacrifice unto thee, to go where thou dost send, and to do whatsoever thou wouldest have us do;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee so to move all clergy who are called to labor for thee at home that they may be instant in prayer and effort for the furtherance of thy world-wide Kingdom;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to pour upon all thy people the spirit of prayer and supplication, and incline them to a fuller consecration of themselves and their substance to thy service;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to hasten the day when, thy will being done upon earth, thy Kingdom shall indeed come through the power of thy Christ;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

O Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world;

Grant us thy peace.

O Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world;

Have mercy upon us.

O Saviour of the world, who by thy cross and precious blood hast redeemed us;

Save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.

[*The Lord's Prayer*]

OUR Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

¶ *The following may be used in conclusion:*

Vers. O God, we have heard with our ears, and our fathers have declared unto us, the noble works that thou didst in their days, and in the old time before them.

Res. *O Lord, arise, help us, and deliver us for thine honour.*

Vers. Set up thyself, O God, above the heavens;

Res. *And thy glory above all the earth.*

Vers. Give unto thy Son the heathen for his inheritance;

Res. *And the uttermost parts of the earth for his possession.*

Vers. God be merciful unto us and bless us;

Res. *That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations.*

Vers. The Lord's name be praised;

Res. *From the rising up of the sun to the going down of the same.*

Vers. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

Res. *As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.*

¶ *Here other prayers may be used at the discretion of the minister.*

[*A Thanksgiving*]

ALMIGHTY GOD, whose compassions fail not, and whose loving kindness reacheth unto the world's end; We give thee humble thanks for all the great things thou hast done and art doing for the children of men, for the opening of heathen

lands to the light of thy truth, for making paths in the deep waters and highways in the desert, for knitting nation to nation in the bonds of fellowship, and for the planting of thy Church in all the earth. O merciful Father, in whom the whole family is named, fill full our hearts with grateful love for this thy goodness, granting us grace henceforth to serve thee better and more perfectly to know thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

[*A Prayer of St. Chrysostom*]

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests; Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be most expedient for them, granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

¶ *This pamphlet may be obtained from The Literature Department, Board of Missions, 281 Fourth Avenue, New York. Ask for No. 51.*

8-14, 10M., C. P.